

IN THE CLAIMS

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the present Application are presented below whether or not an amendment has been made. Please amend the claims as follows:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for managing a plurality of computers, at least one of the plurality of computers associated with a user having a user characteristic, comprising:

inputting receiving selection information **from a network administrator, the selection information comprising a including the** user characteristic **associated with a user of at least one of the plurality of network computers;**

inputting receiving management information **from the network administrator;**
selecting at least one of the plurality of computers based on the selection information; and

modifying the at least one selected computer based on the management information.

2. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein selecting includes identifying at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user having the user characteristic.

3. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic, and selecting includes identifying at least one of the plurality of computers having the computer characteristic.

4. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic, and selecting includes identifying at least one of the plurality of computers having the computer characteristic and the at least one of the plurality of computers is associated with the user having the user characteristic.

5. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein selecting and modifying are performed when the user becomes newly associated with at least one of the plurality of computers.

6. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein selecting and modifying are performed when the user characteristic is one of changed and added.

7. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the user characteristic is related to an employment function of the user.

8. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the user characteristic is at least one of a user group and a geographic identifier.

9. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic; and the computer characteristic is related to a function of at least one of the plurality of computers.

10. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic, and the computer characteristic is at least one of a group, a geographic identifier, and configuration information.

11. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein modifying includes transmitting software to the at least one selected computer from a software database, and installing the software on the at least one selected computer.

12. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the management information includes a software identifier and an action to be performed on the at least one selected computer.

13. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising displaying the management information associated with the user, wherein the management information includes at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user, at least one installation associated with the user, and at least one task associated with the user.

14. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising displaying information stored on at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user.

15. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising providing a link to information stored on at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user.

16. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising modifying a computer based on the user characteristic that is one of stored in a database and entered into the at least one selected computer by the user.

17. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising storing at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic in an external database.

18. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising interfacing with an external database including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic.

19. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising populating an external database including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic with application data.

20. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising populating a target database with data from an external database, the data including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic.

21. **(Original)** The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising checking newly inputted management information against the management information for a conflict.

22. **(Currently Amended)** A method for managing a plurality of computers, at least one of the plurality of computers associated with a user having a user characteristic, comprising:

inputting receiving selection information including one of the user characteristic and a computer characteristic ~~into a selected computer~~ **from one of the plurality of computers**;

transmitting the selection information to a managing computer;

searching in a database for the selection information ~~and to identify~~ management information associated with the selection information, **the management information comprising a policy applicable to a particular user**; and

modifying the ~~selected~~ computer **from which the selection information was received** based on the ~~management information~~ **policy applicable to the user**.

23. **(Currently Amended)** A computer recording medium including computer executable code for managing a plurality of computers, at least one of the plurality of computers associated with a user having a user characteristic, the computer recording medium comprising:

code for ~~inputting~~ receiving selection information from a network administrator, the selection information comprising a including the user characteristic associated with a user of at least one of the plurality of network computers;

code for ~~inputting~~ receiving management information from the network administrator;

code for selecting at least one of the plurality of computers based on the selection information; and

code for modifying the at least one selected computer based on the management information.

24. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, wherein the code for selecting includes code for identifying at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user having the user characteristic.

25. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic, and the code for selecting at least one computer includes code for identifying at least one of the plurality of computers having the computer characteristic.

26. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic, and the code for selecting at least one computer includes code for identifying at least one of the plurality of computers having the computer characteristic and the at least one of the plurality of computers is associated with the user having the user characteristic.

27. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

code for selecting at least one of the plurality of computers and modifying the at least one selected computer when the user becomes newly associated with at least one of the plurality of computers.

28. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

code for selecting at least one of the plurality of computers and modifying the at least one selected computer when the user characteristic is one of changed and added.

29. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, wherein the user characteristic is related to an employment function of the user.

30. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, wherein the user characteristic is at least one of a user group and a geographic identifier.

31. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic, and the computer characteristic is related to a function of at least one of the plurality of computers.

32. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic, and the computer characteristic is at least one of a group, a geographic identifier, and configuration information.

33. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, wherein the code for modifying comprises code for transmitting software to the at least one selected computer from a software database, and code for installing the software on the at least one selected computer.

34. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, wherein management information includes a software identifier and an action to be performed on the at least one selected computer.

35. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

code for displaying the management information associated with the user, wherein the management information includes at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user, at least one installation associated with the user, and at least one task associated with the user.

36. **(Currently Amended)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

code for displaying information stored on at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user.

37. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

code for providing a link to information stored on at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user.

38. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

code for modifying a computer based on the user characteristic that is one of stored in a database and entered into the at least one selected computer by the user.

39. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

code for storing at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic in an external database.

40. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

code for interfacing with an external database including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic.

41. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

code for populating an external database including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic with application data.

42. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

code for populating a target database with data from an external database, the data including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic.

43. **(Original)** The computer recording medium as recited in Claim 23, further comprising:

code for checking newly inputted management information against the management information for a conflict.

44. **(Currently Amended)** A computer recording medium including computer executable code for managing a plurality of computers, at least one of the plurality of computers associated with a user having a user characteristic, the computer recording medium comprising:

code for ~~inputting~~ receiving selection information including one of the user characteristic and a computer characteristic ~~into a selected computer~~ from one of the plurality of computers;

code for transmitting the selection information to a managing computer;

code for searching in a database for the selection information ~~and to identify~~ management information associated with the selection information, the management information comprising a policy applicable to a particular user; and

code for modifying the ~~selected~~ computer from which the selection information was received based on the ~~management information~~ policy applicable to the user.

45. **(Currently Amended)** A programmed computer system for managing a plurality of computers, at least one of the plurality of computers associated with a user having a user characteristic, the programmed computer system residing on a computer-readable medium and comprising instructions for causing a computer to perform the following operations:

~~input~~ receive selection information from a network administrator, the selection information comprising a ~~including the~~ user characteristic associated with a user of at least one of the plurality of network computers;

~~input~~ receive management information from the network administrator;

select at least one of the plurality of computers based on the selection information;
and

modify the at least one selected computer based on the management information.

46. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to identify at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user having the user characteristic.

47. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic, and further comprising instructions for causing a computer to identify at least one of the plurality of computers having the computer characteristic.

48. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic, and further comprising instructions for causing a computer to identify at least one of the plurality of computers having the computer characteristic and the at least one of the plurality of computers is associated with the user having the user characteristic.

49. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to select at least one of the plurality of computers and modify the at least one selected computer when the user becomes newly associated with at least one of the plurality of computers.

50. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to select at least one of the plurality of computers and modify the at least one selected computer when the user characteristic is one of changed and added.

51. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, wherein the user characteristic is related to an employment function of the user.

52. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, wherein the user characteristic is at least one of a user group and a geographic identifier.

53. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic, and the computer characteristic is related to a function of at least one of the plurality of computers.

54. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, wherein the selection information further includes a computer characteristic, and the computer characteristic is at least one of a group, a geographic identifier, and configuration information.

55. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to transmit software to the at least one selected computer from a software database, and install the software on the at least one selected computer.

56. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, wherein the management information includes a software identifier and an action to be performed on the at least one selected computer.

57. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to display the management information associated with the user, wherein the management information includes at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user, at least one installation associated with the user, and at least one task associated with the user.

58. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to display information stored on at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user.

59. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to provide a link to information stored on at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user.

60. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to modify a computer based on the user characteristic that is one of stored in a database and entered into the at least one selected computer by the user.

61. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to store at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic in an external database.

62. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to interface with an external database including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic.

63. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to populate an external database including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic with application data.

64. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to populate a target database with data from an external database, the data including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic.

65. **(Original)** The programmed computer system as recited in Claim 45, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to check newly inputted management information against the management information for a conflict.

66. **(Currently Amended)** A programmed computer system for managing a plurality of computers, at least one of the plurality of computers associated with a user having a user characteristic, the programmed computer system residing on a computer-readable medium and comprising instructions for causing a computer to perform the following operations:

input receive selection information including one of the user characteristic and a computer characteristic ~~into a selected computer~~ **from one of the plurality of computers**;

transmit the selection information to a managing computer;

search in a database for the selection information ~~and~~ **to identify** management information associated with the selection information, **the management information comprising a policy applicable to a particular user**; and

modify the ~~selected~~ computer **from which the selection information was received** based on the ~~management information~~ **policy applicable to the user**.

67. (Currently Amended) A ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system for managing a plurality of computers, ~~at least one of the plurality of computers associated with a user having a user characteristic, the programmed computer apparatus performing steps~~ comprising:

a plurality of network computers; and

a managing computer coupled to the network computers by a network and operable to manage the plurality of network computers, the managing computer comprising a central processing unit operable to:

inputting receive selection information from a network administrator, the selection information comprising a ~~including the~~ user characteristic associated with a user of at least one of the plurality of network computers;

inputting receive management information from the network administrator;

selecting select at least one of the plurality of computers based on the selection information; and

modifying modify the at least one selected computer based on the management information.

68. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein when selecting the at least one of the plurality of computers, the central processing unit is operable to identify ~~includes identifying~~ at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user having the user characteristic.

69. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the selection information further ~~includes~~ comprises a computer characteristic, and wherein when selecting the at least one of the plurality of computers, the central processing unit is operable to identify ~~includes identifying~~ at least one of the plurality of computers having the computer characteristic.

70. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the selection information further ~~includes~~ comprises a computer characteristic, and wherein when selecting the at least one of the plurality of computers, the central processing unit is operable to identify ~~includes identifying~~ at least one of the plurality of computers having the computer characteristic and the at least one of the plurality of computers is associated with the user having the user characteristic.

71. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein ~~selecting and modifying are performed~~ the central processing unit is operable to select and modify the at least one of the plurality of computers when the user becomes newly associated with at least one of the plurality of computers.

72. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein ~~selecting and modifying are performed~~ the central processing unit is operable to select and modify the at least one of the plurality of computers when the user characteristic is one of changed and added.

73. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the user characteristic is related to an employment function of the user.

74. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the user characteristic is at least one of a user group and a geographic identifier.

75. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the selection information further ~~includes~~ comprises a computer characteristic, and the computer characteristic is related to a function of at least one of the plurality of computers.

76. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~programmed-computer-apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the selection information further **includes** comprises a computer characteristic, and the computer characteristic is at least one of a group, a geographic identifier, and configuration information.

77. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~programmed-computer-apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein when modifying the at least one selected computer, the central processing unit is operable to:

~~includes-transmitting~~ transmit software to the at least one selected computer from a software database, and

~~installing~~ install the software on the at least one selected computer.

78. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~programmed-computer-apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the management information **includes** comprises a software identifier and an action to be performed on the at least one selected computer.

79. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~programmed-computer-apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the at least one selected computer is further operable to performing the step of displaying display the management information associated with the user to the network administrator, wherein the management information includes at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user, at least one installation associated with the user, and at least one task associated with the user.

80. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~programmed-computer-apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the at least one selected computer is further operable to performing the step of displaying display information stored on at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user to the network administrator.

81. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the at least one selected computer is further operable to performing the step of providing provide a link to information stored on at least one of the plurality of computers associated with the user.

82. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the at least one selected computer is further operable to performing the step of modifying modify a computer based on the user characteristic that is one of stored in a database and entered into the at least one selected computer by the user.

83. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the at least one selected computer is further operable to performing the step of storing store at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic in an external database.

84. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the at least one selected computer is further operable to performing the step of interfacing interface with an external database including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic.

85. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the at least one selected computer is further operable to performing the step of populating populate an external database including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic with application data.

86. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the at least one selected computer is further operable to performing the step of populating populate a target database with data from an external database, the data including at least one of a computer characteristic and the user characteristic.

87. (Currently Amended) The ~~programmed computer apparatus~~ system as recited in Claim 67, wherein the at least one selected computer is further operable to performing the step of checking check newly inputted management information against the management information for a conflict.

88. (Canceled)

89. (New) A system for managing a plurality of computers, comprising:
a network computer comprising a central processing unit operable to:
 receive selection information from a network user, the selection information comprising at least one of a user characteristic and a computer characteristic;
 and
 transmit the selection information;
a managing computer coupled to the network computer by a network, the managing computer comprising a central processing unit operable to:
 receive the selection information transmitted by the network computer;
 search in a database for the selection information to identify management information associated with the selection information, the management information comprising a policy applicable to a particular user; and
 modify the computer from which the selection information was received based on the policy applicable to the particular user.